



From the Desk of Howard  
County Council  
Chairperson Calvin Ball

September 2014

# The Calvin Ball Bulletin

## Construction Edition

### Welcome!

In an effort to keep you informed, it's my pleasure to share a list of projects currently construction in District Two and their respective timelines. These projects may cause delays, so I encourage you to stay tuned, plan ahead and use caution when driving.

Please feel free to share this information with your neighbors. If you have any additional projects within District Two you would like to see included within this newsletter, please email me at [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov) or my Special Assistant Kim Pruim at [kpruim@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:kpruim@howardcountymd.gov).



### Oakland Mills-Based Projects

#### Thunder Hill Rd at Rt175

At my request, SHA and the County have been working in collaboration to improve walkability in Oakland Mills, specifically the pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Thunder Hill Road at Route 175. SHA will construct a crosswalk and the missing sidewalk in front of Walgreens. Design is complete and construction is on schedule to begin in the coming weeks.

#### Blandair Park Interchange

This project will construct an interchange directly from Rt175 into Blandair Park, reducing traffic coming into Oakland Mills and our local roads.

While there are still some items to work out, the County is preparing a contract bid and hopes to advertise in the coming weeks. The bid process could take 1-4 months. We hope to give the Notice to Proceed early 2015, weather permitting.

#### Stevens Forest Rd Crosswalk @ Owen Brown Pathway

This has been a collaborative project for many years between my office, our County engineers, community and Oakland Mills Village Board to install a crosswalk on Stevens Forest Road at the Owen Brown Pathway. We have completed the design, connected with impacted homeowners to remove trees as a means to increase sight distance and safety and are working with a contractor who will begin working shortly.

#### Barrier Curb & No Parking Signs at SFES

In response to PTA and community concerns that parents and motorists were parking on the roll-up curbs while dropping off their children at Stevens Forest ES and causing potential hazardous safety conditions, I worked with our engineers to establish a permanent curb solution. As part of the project, we will install No Standing, Stopping or Parking signs.

#### Stevens Forest Rd/White Acre Streetscape

To reinvest in Oakland Mills and our Village Center, I've been working with the County and our Village Board to develop a streetscape project that supports our Master Plan. On June 10<sup>th</sup>, our engineers presented to the OM Board who supported Concept Plan 1 which included a mix of streetscapes including roundabouts, planted medians, bioretention bumpouts, bike lanes, on-street parking, gateway signs and directional signs and a mix of pedestrian and roadway lighting. Notification letters were recently mailed to property owners in the project area so survey work could begin. There is currently no construction timeframe at this time.

## SFES Stormwater Mgmt Project

This project included the construction of trench drains, two microbioretention facilities and one bioswale. We anticipate the work to be complete by mid-September, weather permitting.



## MD 103 at Wesley/Old Stockbridge

Due to traffic concerns expressed to my office and SHA, a traffic signal with pedestrian improvements will be constructed at the intersection of MD103 at Wesley and Old Stockbridge. Engineers are working to identify a construction schedule.



## Rt 29 Widening Project

### Phase 1A Extension of Old Columbia Road

This project is currently under construction and includes utility relocation and new roadway clearing. The extension of Old Columbia Road to Twin Knolls Road will permit SHA to close the at grade intersection at US 29 northbound. This project is expected to be completed by February 2015, weather permitting.

### Phase 1B NB US29 Third Lane Widening & Noise Wall Construction

Construction has begun and the project is anticipated to be complete in September 2016, weather permitting. SHA is still in negotiations with the two remaining property owners on Gales Lane.

Noise walls will be constructed along the east side of NB US29 from Seneca Drive to MD175. To facilitate the construction of the noise walls to the south of the exit ramp from NB US29 to EB MD 175, the ramp must be relocated approximately 300feet to the north. During this time, traffic will be detoured to the west MD175 exit ramp and directed around the loop ramps of the MD175 interchange to return to east MD175.

## Rt 175 at Dorsey Run Rd

The County has restriped the lane configuration on Dorsey Run Rd (SW side) and SHA has arranged the overhead signs. The County is scheduled to finish the corrections to the ADA ramps at the intersection that were left unfinished; however, we are awaiting the final design approval from SHA. The County has a requirements contract in place so work can begin once we receive SHA approval. We anticipate this project to take several weeks once receive SHA ADA approval.

## Rt 103 @ Long Gate

This proposed project will be located on Rte 103/ Montgomery Road next to the YMCA across from the Long Gate Shopping Center. As currently submitted, it proposes for the construction of up to 79 townhomes with the maximum density at 111 townhomes. Furthermore, SHA is working with the property owner to install the missing sidewalk portion and possible installation of a light.

The property owner anticipates hosting a public meeting in Fall 2014, but no meeting has been scheduled at this time and is subject to change. Please contact Kim Flowers at [KFlowers@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:KFlowers@howardcountymd.gov) with any questions.



## Deep Run ES Addition / Renovation

The construction work has been bid and the school system is currently reviewing bids at this time. Anticipated project start is September 1.



## Snowden River Park & Ride

This project will include the addition of 96 parking spaces. Construction work has begun. The timeline for the project calls for approximately 70 working days.



Listed below you will find updates on construction projects occurring along the Route 1 corridor.



## Route 1 Fire Station

A Fire Station will be constructed in the Route 1 corridor north of Route 175 near Montevideo Rd. The County has completed design work and is currently working to finalize land development and acquisition.

## Route 1 at Montevideo Rd

This project will include the relocation of Montevideo Road to align with Port Capital Drive. SHA anticipates this project will likely proceed before the US1 widening. The plans are approx. 65% complete and will soon be submitted for SHA review. The County is currently working with the Utility companies to ensure we can relocate a pole near the proposed new intersection.

## Rt 1: Rt 175 to Montevideo

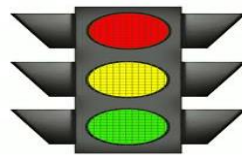
This is a State Highway project to widen Route 1 near the intersection of Route 175 and make other improvements as needed. Currently, SHA is finalizing an MOU that will among many things, coordinate right-of-way land acquisitions necessary for the project and collaborate with BGE to relocate the utility poles. Plans are being developed to address the r/w line needed to relocate the utility poles.

## Rt 1 Sidewalk, Crestmount to Cedar

At my request, SHA will coordinate efforts to improve pedestrian improvements in this area. Specifically, SHA will construct a missing portion of sidewalk along Route 1 from Crestmount south to Cedar. The County will arrange for a public meeting; however, no date has been selected.

## Rt 1 at Assateague Dr

This SHA and County collaboration was initiated as a request from my office to help improve walkability and pedestrian safety. Specifically, the County will construct a sidewalk along Assateague Dr from the Rt 1 right-of-way (ROW) line to the end of the existing sidewalk (900+ft). The County has issued a purchase order for the design and will provide SHA with a schedule of our work. SHA has agreed to construct a crosswalk on the north side of the intersection. SHA has approved the design of the pedestrian improvements. SHA and the County anticipate work could proceed Spring/Summer 2015, weather permitting.



## Route 1 at Ducketts Lane

SHA has completed a review of this intersection and determined a full color traffic signal control would be beneficial at this location. A Notice to Proceed is scheduled for October 15, 2014 and the estimated completion date is . They will have 90 days to complete the project. For details, call George Miller at 301-624-8140 or email [Gmiller2@state.md.us](mailto:Gmiller2@state.md.us)

## Thank You For Following Along!

I hope you have found this information useful. If there are any projects you would like to see included within this newsletter, please email me at [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov).

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Calvin Ball'.

Dr. Calvin Ball  
Howard County Chairperson  
*"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved. ~*  
**Mattie Stepanek**